

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (currently amended): A hand-operated crusher for cutting up ice, comprising:

(a) a housing able to be placed over the ice to be cut up and comprising an upper part and a lower part;

(b) a vertical rod guided in the housing upper part, the rod being downwardly displaceable against the force of a spring by means of an actuating mechanism having a push button; and

(c) a knife attached to the lower end of the vertical rod, the knife being provided with a toothed cutter at a lower edge, wherein the knife has a maximal vertical path that is limited by the actuating device and wherein the height of the knife, the height of the housing lower part and the maximal vertical path of the knife are selected such that the cutter, at its lowermost position, does not contact the base of housing lower part, whereby an air gap exists between a lower edge of the cutter and the base of housing lower part.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The crusher of claim 11, wherein the housing lower part ~~is a beaker-like housing having~~ comprises a closed lower, base, end and is detachably connected to the housing upper part at an upper end.

Claim 13 (cancelled).

Claim 14 (previously presented): The crusher of claim 11, wherein the toothed cutter comprises teeth having a cutting angle of between 30 and 100°.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The crusher of claim 14, wherein the teeth are ground on one side and have a cutting angle of 45°.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The crusher of claim 14, wherein the teeth are ground on both sides and have a cutting angle of  $90^\circ$ .

Claims 17-19 (cancelled).

Claim 20 (currently amended): The crusher of claim ~~19~~ 27, wherein the housing lower part widens towards an upper region at an angle  $\alpha$  and the shaker attachment comprises a sidewall which tapers towards a lower region at an angle  $\beta$  and merges into a cone at a top region, and wherein the diameter of the upper region of the housing lower part and the diameter of the lower region of the sidewall are matched to one another such that the shaker attachment may be inserted into the housing lower part approximately up to the transition of the sidewall into the cone thereby sealing the crusher to fluids.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The crusher of claim 20, wherein the angles  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are between  $1^\circ$  and  $15^\circ$ .

Claim 22 (previously presented): The crusher of claim 21, wherein the angles  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are  $4^\circ$ .

Claim 23 (previously presented): The crusher of claim 11, further comprising an underlay adapted to the housing lower part.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The crusher of claim 23, wherein the underlay is manufactured of a soft, anti-slip elastomer.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The crusher of claim 24, wherein the underlay is manufactured of silicone.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The crusher of claim 23, wherein the underlay comprises a peripherally thickened circumferential edge bead.

Claim 27 (new): A hand-operated crusher for cutting up ice, comprising:

(a) a housing able to be placed over the ice to be cut up and comprising a removable upper part and a lower part, wherein the lower part has a closed lower, base, end;

(b) a vertical rod guided in the housing upper part, the rod being downwardly displaceable against the force of a spring by means of an actuating mechanism having a push button;

(c) a knife attached to the lower end of the vertical rod, the knife being provided with a toothed cutter at a lower edge, wherein the knife has a maximal vertical path that is limited by the actuating device and wherein the height of the knife, the height of the housing lower part and the maximal vertical path of the knife are selected such that the cutter, at its lowermost position, does not contact the base of housing lower part, whereby an air gap exists between a lower edge of the cutter and the base of housing lower part; and

(d) a shaker attachment designed to detachably connect to the housing lower part in an essentially fluid-tight manner when the housing upper part is removed.

Claim 28 (new): The crusher of claim 27, wherein the toothed cutter comprises teeth having a cutting angle of between 30 and 100°.

Claim 29 (new): The crusher of claim 28, wherein the teeth are ground on one side and have a cutting angle of 45°.

Claim 30 (new): The crusher of claim 28, wherein the teeth are ground on both sides and have a cutting angle of 90°.

Claim 31 (new): The crusher of claim 27, further comprising an underlay adapted to the housing lower part.

Claim 32 (new): The crusher of claim 31, wherein the underlay is manufactured of a soft, anti-slip elastomer.